

CONFERENCE COMMITTEE REPORT
House Bill No. 194 By Representative Williams

June 22, 2011

To the Honorable Speaker and Members of the House of Representatives and the Honorable President and Members of the Senate.

Ladies and Gentlemen:

We, the conferees appointed to confer over the disagreement between the two houses concerning House Bill No. 194 by Representative Williams, recommend the following concerning the Reengrossed bill:

1. That the set of Senate Floor Amendments proposed by Senator Mills and adopted by the Senate on June 20, 2011, be rejected.

Respectfully submitted,

Representative Patrick C. Williams

Senator Sherri Smith Cheek

Representative Kay Kellogg Katz

Senator Willie L. Mount

Representative Scott M. Simon

Senator Fred H. Mills, Jr.

DIGEST

The digest printed below was prepared by House Legislative Services. It constitutes no part of the legislative instrument. The keyword, one-liner, abstract, and digest do not constitute part of the law or proof or indicia of legislative intent. [R.S. 1:13(B) and 24:177(E)]

CONFERENCE COMMITTEE REPORT DIGEST

House Bill No. 194 by Representative Williams

Keyword and oneliner of the instrument as it left the House

HEALTH: Requires the Dept. of Children and Family Services to provide certain educational services within the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program and to report to the House and Senate health and welfare committees on service outcomes

Report rejects Senate amendments which would have:

1. Authorized DCFS to develop and implement a program to provide a monetary reward to anyone who provides information to the department which leads to a successful conviction of a person who has committed fraud or abuse of the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program.

Digest of the bill as proposed by the Conference Committee

Proposed law provides legislative findings regarding the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), which is still commonly known as "food stamps"; and the SNAP Education program, which provides nutrition education services to low-income families receiving SNAP benefits.

Proposed law provides that in addition to any SNAP Education services conducted by contractors of DCFS, the department shall provide printed nutrition education resource materials directly to the heads of all SNAP beneficiary households at the following intervals:

- (1) At the first issuance of a SNAP electronic benefits transfer card subsequent to the initial determination of eligibility.
- (2) In the first correspondence from the department subsequent to a redetermination of eligibility.
- (3) Any interval which the department deems advantageous and feasible.

Proposed law provides that DCFS may develop or utilize materials at its discretion in order to satisfy the requirement of proposed law that the agency provide printed nutrition education resource materials to the heads of SNAP beneficiary households.

Proposed law requires DCFS to submit a report on the SNAP Education program to the House and Senate health and welfare committees by March 1 annually, which shall include but not be limited to the following items:

- (1) Analysis and commentary on major health challenges faced by low-income La. families.
- (2) Data on SNAP Education participants, including a description of the ideal target population, actual number of participants served, geographic distribution of participants, and participant demographics.
- (3) A description of program operations, including details on selection of participants, service delivery, and activities conducted by all SNAP Education program contractors and subcontractors.

- (4) Analysis of program outcomes and other significant impacts to SNAP Education service recipients.
- (5) Public policy recommendations for enhancing the SNAP Education program and for supporting better health and nutrition generally among low-income families of this state.

(Adds R.S. 46:236.1)